

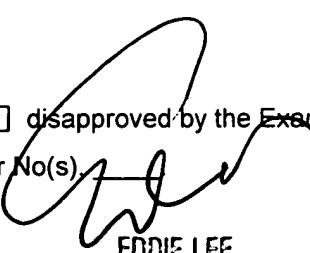


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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/428,052	10/27/1999	KIYOSHI IRINO	970901A	4139
23850	7590	11/27/2002		
ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP 1725 K STREET, NW. SUITE 1000 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			EXAMINER DIAZ, JOSE R	
			ART UNIT 2815	PAPER NUMBER
			DATE MAILED: 11/27/2002	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/428,052	IRINO, KIYOSHI
	Examiner José R Diaz	Art Unit 2815
<i>--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears in the cover sheet with the correspondence address--</i>		
<p>THE REPLY FILED 20 November 2002 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.</p>		
<u>PERIOD FOR REPLY</u> [check either a) or b)]		
<p>a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.</p> <p>b) <input type="checkbox"/> The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.</p> <p>ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).</p>		
<p>Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</p>		
<p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.</p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:</p> <p>(a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);</p> <p>(b) <input type="checkbox"/> they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);</p> <p>(c) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or</p> <p>(d) <input type="checkbox"/> they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.</p>		
<p>NOTE: See Continuation Sheet.</p>		
<p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____. </p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).</p> <p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> The a)<input type="checkbox"/> affidavit, b)<input type="checkbox"/> exhibit, or c)<input type="checkbox"/> request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: _____. </p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> will not be entered or b)<input type="checkbox"/> will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.</p>		
<p>The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:</p> <p>Claim(s) allowed: <u>6,15 and 16.</u></p> <p>Claim(s) objected to: _____. </p> <p>Claim(s) rejected: <u>10-12.</u></p> <p>Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____. </p>		
<p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is a)<input type="checkbox"/> approved or b)<input type="checkbox"/> disapproved by the Examiner.</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>		
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Continuation of 2. NOTE: The proposed amendment does not overcome the rejection stated in the last Office action. The proposed limitation, which is the same limitation stated in claim 12, is taught by Pan in col. 6, line 13. For example, consider the fact that the dose range taught by Pan goes from 1 E14 to 1 E16 cm⁻², which includes the claimed dose range of 1-3 X 10¹⁴ cm⁻². Since the process of Pan achieves the same result of incorporating nitrogen ions in the gate oxide film and includes the same parameters such as implant dose and implant energy, one of ordinary skill in the art recognizes that such claimed dose range is merely an optimum range. Applicant should note that it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or working ranges involves only routine skill in the art. In re Aller, 105 USPQ 233. Therefore, the reference Pan anticipates the claimed invention. As such the rejection is considered to be proper.